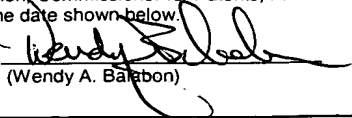


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to Examiner A. A. Mathews, 703-872-9306, as well as deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail EV 223960240US, in a prepaid envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 30, 2004 Signature: 

(Wendy A. Balaban)

Docket No.: 65446-0082
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Paul T. Ryan et al.

Application No.: 09/913,425

Art Unit: 2851

Filed: February 17, 2000

Examiner: A. A. Mathews

For: AN AUTOMATED SYSTEM FOR EXCISING
PROTEINS FROM TWO-DIMENSIONAL
ELECTROPHORESIS GELS

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 30, 2003 (Paper No. 20030920), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

04/01/2004 FMETEK11 00000107 180013 09913425

01 FC:2202 72.00 DA
02 FC:2201 215.00 DA